

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-05 LAB-04 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00

SWF-01 CIEP-01 FRB-01 OMB-01 TAR-01 L-02 H-01 IO-10

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R 051804Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6288

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJ: SUGAR: COSTA RICAN DEL REPORT ON COZUMEL MEETING

REF: (A) MEXICO 10030, (B) LONDON 15620

1. ON DECEMBER 4 THE COSTA RICAN DELEGATE TO THE INTERNATIONAL SUGAR ORGANIZATION (ISO) MEETINGS, GOCR VICE MINISTER CARVAJAL REQUESTED A MEETING WITH THE US OBSERVER (THIGPEN) TO DISCUSS RECENT COZUMEL SUGAR MEETING. IN PRESENCE OF THE COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR AND ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE GOCR DEL (GARCIA), CARVAJAL REFERRED TO WIDESPREAD, ERRONEOUS PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT COZUMEL AND SAID HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW WHAT WENT ON AND ROLE PLAYED BY COSTA RICA. (HE SAID HE WANTED TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH THIGPEN AT THIS TIME BECAUSE OF URGENCY HE ATTACHED TO MATTER.)

2. CARVAJAL EMPHASIZED FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) MEETING AGREED ONLY TO SET UP MECHANISM FOR EXCHANGE OF DATA ON WESTERN HEMISPHERE SUGAR

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INDUSTRY.

(B) IT DID NOT, REPEAT NOT, REACH ANY DECISIONS ON PRICING, MARKET SHARES, OR STOCK POLICY. (IMPLICATION WAS THAT THERE WAS LITTLE OR NO DISCUSSION OF SUCH MATTERS.)

(C) MEETING WAS IN NO SENSE "AGAINST" THE US. CARVAJAL PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZED THAT COSTA RICA'S POSITION HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY LOW KEY.

3. CARVAJAL HEADS A FIVE-MAN DELEGATION, INCLUDING WASHINGTON LOBBYIST DINA DELLALE. WHILE COSTA RICA SO FAR HAS PLAYED AN INACTIVE ROLE IN ISO MEETINGS, CARVAJAL HAS CLEARLY ESTABLISHED HIMSELF AS DELEGATION CHIEF IN FACT AS WELL AS IN NAME.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON15904
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740353-0830
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741258/aaaabxqu.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) MEXICO 10030, (B) LONDON 15620
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUGAR: COSTA RICAN DEL REPORT ON COZUMEL MEETING
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, (CARVAJAL, MARIO), (THIGPEN, GEORGE H)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005